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703-872-9306**TOTAL NO. OF PAGES:**  
9**RE:**  
U.S. Serial No. 09/695,231**OUR REFERENCE NO.:**  
000407.00004*If you do not receive all page(s) or have any problems receiving this transmission, please call:***NAME:** Lesa Wolman**PHONE:** 503-425-6800**COMMENTS:**

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Respectfully submitted,

By: Byron S. Kuzara  
Registration Number 51,255  
Banner & Witcoff, Ltd.

**PATENT****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

|                                |   |                                  |
|--------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| In re Application of           | ) |                                  |
|                                | ) | Group Art Unit: 2144             |
| Masaru OHKUBO, et al.          | ) |                                  |
|                                | ) | Examiner: Nguyen, T.             |
| Serial Number 09/695,231       | ) |                                  |
|                                | ) | Attorney Reference: 000407.00004 |
| Filed: October 25, 2000        | ) |                                  |
|                                | ) |                                  |
| For: AUTOMATIC VENDING MACHINE | ) |                                  |
| HAVING A CONTROL SYSTEM        | ) |                                  |
| CAPABLE OF EASILY AND RELIABLY | ) |                                  |
| REWRITING A CONTROL PROGRAM    | ) |                                  |
| IN EACH TERMINAL CONTROL UNIT  | ) |                                  |

**AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed January 16, 2004, please amend the above-captioned application as follows: